

Serial No. **10/733,515**

Docket No. **P-0601**

Amdt. dated July 19, 2007

Reply to Office Action of April 25, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-2, 4, 6-10, 12, and 14-23 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1-2, 4, 10, 12, 14, and 18 are amended, and claims 3, 5, 11, and 13 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

No new matter is added. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and the drawings. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objected to claim 2 because of informalities. The objection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that “the drawings do not correspond to a ‘circumferential’ shape.” However, independent claim 2 recites that “the display protecting member is configured to surround the circumferential surface of the display module.” In the exemplary embodiment shown in Figure 4, element 54 represents the display module and element 60 represents the display protecting member with support rib 78. Thus, Figure 4 does show an example of the recited features of independent claim 2 as the display protecting member 60 surrounds the circumferential surface of the display module 54. Accordingly, the objection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-6, 10-15, 18-21, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Shimazaki, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0049293. Claims 3, 5, 11, and

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13 have been canceled. The rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to the remaining claims.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, that a predetermined clearance is maintained between an upper surface of the supporting rib and a lower surface of the upper cover prior to an external impact on the upper cover. The Examiner corresponds elements 231, 232, 236, and 237 of Shimazaki with the claimed display protecting member. However, elements 236 and 237 are their front and back screens, respectively. Elements 231 and 232 are supporting frame members. However, no clearance is provided between the supporting frames 231, 232 and the first and second casings 201 and 202. The term “clearance” is defined by Webster’s New World Direct Dictionary, 3rd Coll. Ed., page 260, a copy of which is attached, as “the clear space or distance between ...mechanical parts.” Independent claims 10 and 18 are also similarly amended to include a predetermined clearance feature, and thus are also allowable over Shimazaki.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claims 1, 10, and 18 over Shimazaki should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 2, 4, 6, 11-15, 19-21, and 23 are allowable over Shimazaki at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 1, 10, and 18, from which they respectively depend, as well as for their added features.

The Office Action rejected claims 7-9, 16-17, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shimazaki. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

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Dependent claims 7-9, 16-17, and 22 are allowable over Shimazaki at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 1, 10, and 18, from which they respectively depend, as well as for their added features. Further, it is respectfully submitted that it would not have been obvious to use stainless steel for the display protecting member, as mobile terminal frame parts are generally constructed of plastic materials. Further, the Examiner's comments in the "Response to Arguments" section of the Office Action are improper. The Examiner asserts that "the applicant did not traverse the examiner's assertion of Official Notice with respect to claims 1-23; therefore, the common knowledge or well known in the art statement is taken to be Admitted Prior Art because applicant failed to traverse the examiner's assertion of Official Notice." However, the Examiner's assertion of Official Notice applied to the rejection of the claims over Makino, a reference which was improperly applied. Thus, any combination of Makino and Official Notice was improper. It is noted that Applicant's arguments resulted in the withdrawal of all of the rejections of the previous Office Action. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 7-9, 16-17, and 22 over Shimazaki should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

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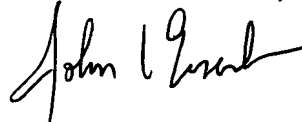
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If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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